

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An image processing device for displaying an image representative of a picture of an object viewed from a viewpoint in a virtual three-dimensional space where the object and the viewpoint are placed, said object having at least one of a speed and distance of movement in the three dimensional space, comprising:

distance data calculation means for calculating distance data concerning the object and the viewpoint;

moving state determination means for determining ~~at least one of a moving distance and a~~ moving speed of the object in the virtual three-dimensional space, based on the distance data, whereby ~~at least one of said moving distance of the object in the three dimensional space becomes longer as distance data becomes larger and~~ the moving speed of the object in the three-dimensional space becomes slower as distance data becomes larger;

object moving means for moving the object in the virtual three-dimensional space based on ~~at least one of the moving distance and~~ the moving speed of the object, which is determined by the moving state determination means; and

image displaying means for displaying an exaggerated image representative of a picture of the object moving in the virtual three-dimensional space viewed from the viewpoint.

2. (original): The image processing device according to claim 1, further comprising:

size information determination means for determining size information indicative of a size of the object placed in the virtual three-dimensional space, based on the distance data; and

object enlargement and reduction means for enlarging or reducing the object according to the size information determined by the size information determination means,

wherein the image displaying means displays an image representative of a picture of the object enlarged or reduced viewed from the viewpoint in the virtual three-dimensional space.

3. (original): The image processing device according to claim 1, wherein the distance data is data indicative of a distance between a position associated with the object and a position of the viewpoint.

4. (original): The image processing device according to claim 2, wherein the size information determination means determines a rate by which the object is enlarged or reduced as the size information of the object based on the distance data, and the object enlargement and reduction means enlarges or reduces the object having a predetermined size by the rate.

5. (currently amended): An image processing method for displaying on a display an image representative of a picture of an object viewed from a viewpoint in a virtual three-dimensional space where the object and the viewpoint are placed, said object having at least one of a speed and distance of movement in the three dimensional space, comprising:

a distance data calculating step of calculating with a processor distance data concerning the object and the viewpoint;

a moving state determining step of determining ~~at least one of a moving distance and a~~ moving speed of the object in the virtual three-dimensional space, based on the distance data, whereby ~~at least one of said moving distance of the object in the three dimensional space becomes longer as distance data becomes larger and~~ the moving speed of the object in the three-dimensional space becomes slower as distance data becomes larger;

an object moving step of moving the object in the virtual three-dimensional space based on ~~at least one of the moving distance and~~ the moving speed of the object, which is determined by the moving state determination means; and

an image displaying step of displaying on the display an exaggerated image representative of a picture of the object moving in the virtual three-dimensional space viewed from the viewpoint.

6. (currently amended): A computer readable data storage medium for causing a computer to function, in connection with the displaying of an image representative of a picture of an object viewed from a viewpoint in a virtual three-dimensional space where the object and the

viewpoint are placed, said object having at least one of a speed and distance of movement in the three dimensional space, as

distance data calculation means for calculating distance data concerning an object and a viewpoint both placed in a virtual three-dimensional space;

moving state determination means for determining ~~at least one of a moving distance and a~~ moving speed of the object in the virtual three-dimensional space, based on the distance data, whereby ~~at least one of said moving distance of the object in the three dimensional space becomes longer as distance data becomes larger and~~ the moving speed of the object in the three-dimensional space becomes slower as distance data becomes larger;

object moving means for moving the object in the virtual three-dimensional space based on ~~at least one of the moving distance and~~ the moving speed of the object, which is determined by the moving state determination means; and

image displaying means for displaying an exaggerated image representative of a picture of the object moving in the virtual three-dimensional space viewed from the viewpoint.

7. (new): An image processing device for displaying an image representative of a picture of an object viewed from a viewpoint in a virtual three-dimensional space where the object and the viewpoint are placed, said object having at least one of a speed and distance of movement in the three dimensional space, comprising:

distance data calculation means for calculating distance data concerning the object and the viewpoint;

moving state determination means for determining a moving distance of the object in the virtual three-dimensional space, based on the value of the distance data, whereby said moving distance of the object in the three-dimensional space becomes longer as a direct result of the value of the distance data becoming larger;

object moving means for moving the object in the virtual three-dimensional space based on the moving distance of the object, which is determined by the moving state determination means; and

image displaying means for displaying an exaggerated image representative of a picture of the object moving in the virtual three-dimensional space viewed from the viewpoint.

8. (new): The image processing device according to claim 7, further comprising:
size information determination means for determining size information indicative of a size of the object placed in the virtual three-dimensional space, based on the distance data; and
object enlargement and reduction means for enlarging or reducing the object according to the size information determined by the size information determination means,

wherein the image displaying means displays an image representative of a picture of the object enlarged or reduced viewed from the viewpoint in the virtual three-dimensional space.

9. (new): The image processing device according to claim 7, wherein the distance data is data indicative of a distance between a position associated with the object and a position of the viewpoint.

10. (new): The image processing device according to claim 2, wherein
the size information determination means determines a rate by which the object is enlarged or reduced as the size information of the object based on the distance data, and
the object enlargement and reduction means enlarges or reduces the object having a predetermined size by the rate.

11. (new): An image processing method for displaying on a display an image representative of a picture of an object viewed from a viewpoint in a virtual three-dimensional space where the object and the viewpoint are placed, said object having at least one of a speed and distance of movement in the three dimensional space, comprising:

a distance data calculating step of calculating with a processor distance data concerning the object and the viewpoint;

a moving state determining step of determining a moving distance of the object in the virtual three-dimensional space, based on the distance data, whereby said moving distance of the object in the three-dimensional space becomes longer as a direct result of the value of the distance data becoming larger;

an object moving step of moving the object in the virtual three-dimensional space based on the moving distance, which is determined by the moving state determination means; and

an image displaying step of displaying on the display an exaggerated image representative of a picture of the object moving in the virtual three-dimensional space viewed from the viewpoint.

12. (new): A computer readable data storage medium for causing a computer to function, in connection with the displaying of an image representative of a picture of an object viewed from a viewpoint in a virtual three-dimensional space where the object and the viewpoint are placed, said object having at least one of a speed and distance of movement in the three dimensional space, as

distance data calculation means for calculating distance data concerning an object and a viewpoint both placed in a virtual three-dimensional space;

moving state determination means for determining a moving distance of the object in the virtual three-dimensional space, based on the distance data, whereby said moving distance of the object in the three-dimensional space becomes longer as a direct result of the value of the distance data becoming larger;

object moving means for moving the object in the virtual three-dimensional space based on the moving distance of the object, which is determined by the moving state determination means; and

image displaying means for displaying an exaggerated image representative of a picture of the object moving in the virtual three-dimensional space viewed from the viewpoint.